Response to Quayle Action and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Serial No.: 10/019,560

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8: Cancelled.

Claim 9 (previously presented): Filling method for filling a flexible container with a

fluid substance, comprising the following steps:

- placing the flexible container in a relatively rigid container, the flexible container being

provided with a film material for containing a fluid substance comprising a fill opening and a

partitioning means along the which a first container wall part is placed against a second container

wall part, the partitioning means dividing the container in a first and second compartment,

characterised in that the partitioning means comprises a restraining member which maintains a

substantially fluid tight separation of the first and second compartment until a predetermined

pressure is achieved in the first compartment, wherein at the predetermined pressure, the

restraining member is released by the fill pressure for placing the first and second compartment

in fluid communication;

- filling the first compartment with the fluid substance via a fill opening in the container,

- activating the film storage means via the fill pressure such that the second compartment

is released, and

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- filling the second compartment until the film material of the flexible container is at least

largely in contact with the wall of the rigid container;

wherein, during filling, at least one of a flow rate and a fill pressure is measured and a

change in the at least one of the flow rate and the fill pressure is determined on activation of the

film storage means.

Claim 10 (previously presented): Method according to Claim 9, characterised in that

air is removed from the flexible container before the flexible container is inserted in the rigid

container.

Claim 11 (previously presented): Method according to Claim 9, characterised in that

the flexible container is folded double along closure lines, the container sections folded double

being attached to one another by the restraining member which can be released by fill pressure.

Claims 12 and 13:

Cancelled.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 9, further

comprising inserting said flexible container into a generally cylindrical, rigid outer container;

wherein a central cylindrical area is defined between the closure lines;

wherein upon filling and expanding the flexible container, vertical sides of the flexible

container outside the closure lines do not press against the walls of the rigid outer container; and

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wherein after release of the closure lines, the flexible container material outside the closure lines is pressed into contact with the rigid outer container.